



IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please remove the line after the abstract.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claims 34-51, as follows:

34 (Added) A system for distributing music to users, comprising:

a transmitter blanket-transmitting a plurality of encoded digital music contents;

a plurality of user stations comprising:

a first input terminal receiving a user selection of a transmitted encoded music content to store;

a module receiving and storing the selected transmitted encoded music content;

an output terminal sending an indication of the user selection;

a decoder operable when enabled to decode the stored encoded music content;

a second input terminal receiving a key unique to the music content selected by the user to enable the decoder;

an anti-piracy module to embed an ID tag in the decoded music content; and

an output device supplying the decoded music content to the user from the decoder;

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-406-4000

cont
D4

a central controller connected to the user stations and comprising a first input terminal receiving from a user station an indication of a user selection of a transmitted music content and a first output terminal transmitting to the user station a key unique to the selected music content; and
a billing system associated with the central controller to bill the user stations.

B2

35. (Added) The system of claim 34, wherein the transmitter transmits the encoded digital music content in time compressed format.

36. (Added) The system of claim 34, wherein the output device is an audio speaker system outputting the decoded music content.

37. (Added) The system of claim 34, wherein the output device is a recording device.

38. (Added) The system of claim 34, wherein the billing system bills the user station for each key transmitted by the central controller.

39. (Added) The system of claim 34, wherein the billing system bills the user station on a subscription basis for the transmission of the keys for decoding all music content selected by the user.

Sub
D5

40. (Added) The system of claim 34, wherein billing system processes payment transactions from the user stations and the central controller transmits the key only if a payment transaction for the key is completed in advance of the key transmission.

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

41. (Added) The system of claim 34, wherein the transmitter is a direct broadcast satellite.

42. (Added) The system of claim 34, wherein the user stations comprise a satellite receiver.

43. (Added) The system of claim 34, further comprising:

a content provider providing the music contents for transmission; and
a credit system crediting to the content provider payment for music
content decoded by a customer.

44. (Added) The system of claim 34, wherein the user stations provide a preview of the stored music content without first requiring a payment from the user.

45. (Added) The system of claim 34 wherein the transmitter transmits the encoded digital music contents over a channel comprising at least at least one of DSL, CATV, and the Internet.

46. (Added) A user station for purchasing digital music contents, comprising:

a module receiving and storing blanket-transmitted encoded music
contents;

an input terminal receiving a key unique to a recorded music content;

a decoder decoding the music content using the key,

an anti-piracy module embedding an ID tag in the decoded music content;

and

a terminal outputting the music content.

Sub
DU

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

B2

cont
D6

47. (Added) A user station for distributing music to users from a transmitter blanket transmitting a plurality of encoded digital music contents, comprising

- a first input terminal receiving a user selection of a transmitted music content to store;
- a module receiving and storing the selected transmitted music content;
- an output terminal sending an indication of the user selection;
- a second input terminal receiving a key unique to the music content selected by the user to enable the decoder;
- a decoder operable when enabled to decode the stored encoded music content;
- an anti-piracy module embedding an ID tag in the received music content;
- and
- an output device supplying the decoded music content to the user from the decoder.

48. (Added) The user station of claim 47, wherein the output device comprises a removable-media recording device.

Sub
C4

49. (Added) The user station of claim 47 wherein the output device comprises a CD-drive.

50. (Added) The user station of claim 47, wherein the output device comprises a CD-ROM drive.

Sub
D7

51. (Added) A method for distributing music to users, comprising:

blanket-transmitting a plurality of encoded digital music contents to a plurality of user stations;

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

receiving a user selection of a transmitted encoded music content to store;
receiving the selected transmitted encoded music content at a user
station;
storing the selected transmitted encoded music content at the user station;
sending an indication of the user selection to a central controller;
receiving at the central controller from a user station an indication of a
user selection of a transmitted music content;
transmitting to the user station a key unique to the selected music content;
receiving the key at a user station;
enabling a decoder at the user station to decode the stored encoded
music content;
embedding an ID tag in the received music content;
supplying the decoded music content to the user; and
billing the user for the supplied music content.

cont
D1

REMARKS

The Office Action identified above was mailed on October 9, 2001. Subsequent to this date, but prior to receiving the Office Action, Applicants filed a Preliminary Amendment on October 18, 2001, adding claims 3-33. The Preliminary Amendment and Office Action thus apparently crossed in the mail.

Applicants have amended the specification to include a cross reference to related applications. The specification, as originally filed, incorporated each of these related